The Saskatchewan
Water Appeal Board

Annual Report
1988-89

Saskatchewan
Water Appeal Board

90-03468/

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Her Honour
The Honourable Sylvia O. Fedoruk
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan
Government House
4607 Dewdney Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 3V7

Dear Madam:

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of The Water Appeal Board for the period commencing April 1, 1988 and ending March 31, 1989.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Hodgins,
Minister

Honourable Grant Hodgins
Minister
Saskatchewan Environment and
Public Safety
Legislative Building
Regina, Saskatchewan

Dear Mr. Hodgins:

I am pleased to present the annual report of The Water Appeal Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989.

Respectfully submitted,

George Wickett,
Chairman

Chairman's Comments

The Saskatchewan Drainage Appeal Board was continued under the Water Appeal Board which was established under the Water Appeal Board Act (Bill No. 73 of 1983-84) and became law upon the proclamation of the Water Corporation Act on July 1, 1984. The Water Appeal Board came into force on July 1, 1984. We are a body corporate and receive funding in the form of a grant from the Consolidated Fund. The Board has full responsibility for its financial operations.

The Board's Membership consists of seven members, comprising of five men and two women from various parts of the Province, being familiar with farming operations, rural municipality operations and technical expertise.

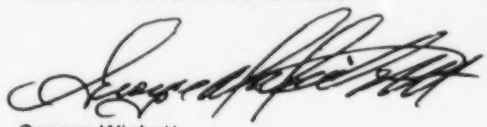
The mandate of the Water Appeal Board is to hear and determine appeals against decisions, orders and actions made by the Water Corporation with respect to drainage complaints and drainage permit applications. The Board received eight (8) new appeals in the year 1988-89. A complete report on the appeals is found in Table 1.

Water problems are province-wide from the U.S. border to as far north as land is being farmed and from the Manitoba to the Alberta borders. Water is a problem wherever farming is carried on, whether it be flooding, erosion, drought or irrigation problems. In the last number of years, with farm size being expanded, larger machinery being used and cost price squeeze, farmers are encountering more pressure to produce on every acre. Some of the acres, historically are not meant to be cultivated. Our task is not an easy one as there are no simple answers to every situation. All cases are weighed on their own merit. The Board is dedicated to render decisions that will be as fair and equitable as possible.

The Board's office is located in Regina and maintains a part-time secretary. The Board retains independent legal counsel on a fee-for-service basis. Business meetings are held nine months of the year in conjunction with scheduled appeal hearings in Regina and Saskatoon. When necessary, site inspections are conducted by members of the Board.

The duties of the Board have been very challenging and educational to all of our members. We are all much wiser with respect to the problems encountered by the Water Corporation, the Rural Municipalities and the farmers in administering the Province's water resource. We are proud of our record to date and it is encouraging to hear from farmers and other parties with respect to their satisfaction and the opportunity that they have to be heard and have their problems reviewed.

The Board appreciates the co-operation it has received this past year from the staff and engineers of Water Corporation and we also thank the farmers and their families for appreciating the difficult decisions we have had to make.



George Wickett
Chairman.

March 31, 1989

Board Members

Chairman:	George Wickett Rosetown, Saskatchewan
Vice-Chairman:	Elaine Morgan Gainsborough, Saskatchewan
Member:	Christine Wolfater Tompkins, Saskatchewan
Member:	John Duncan Leask, Saskatchewan
Member:	Gary Grisdale Weekes, Saskatchewan
Member:	Roy Epp Langham, Saskatchewan
Member:	Joe Huber Raymore, Saskatchewan

Table No. 1 Summary of Appeals

Activity	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
New Appeals	16	8	1
Appeals ordered to be heard or reheard by Queen's Bench	2	—	
Appeals Heard	17	9	1
Decisions Rendered	20	11	1
Appeals Withdrawn	2	2	
Appeals Denied	2	—	
Department Decisions Affirmed	9	7	
Department Decisions Over-turned or Varied	11	4	
Decisions appealed to Court of Queen's Bench	2	—	

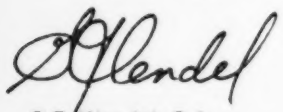
Water Appeal Board
Financial Statements
Year Ended March 31, 1989
Office of the Provincial Auditor
Regina, Saskatchewan

Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly
Province of Saskatchewan

I have examined the balance sheet of the Water Appeal Board as at March 31, 1989 and the statement of revenue, expenditure and accumulated surplus for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Board as at March 31, 1989 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



G.F. Wendel, C.A.,
A/Provincial Auditor

Regina, Saskatchewan
June 28, 1989.

Water Appeal Board
Balance Sheet
As At March 31

	1989	1988
Assets:		
Bank	$ 50,596	$ 4,630
Accrued interest	555	—
Prepaid expenses	161	128
Dues from Trust Fund	1,200	900
	$ 52,512	$ 5,658
Liabilities & Equity		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	$ 1,197	$ 21
Equity:		
Accumulated surplus	51,315	5,637
	$ 52,512	$ 5,658
Trust Fund		
Assets:		
Bank	$ 4,800	$ 4,500
Liabilities:		
Appellant fees (Note 1)	$ 3,600	$ 3,600
Due to Operating Fund	1,200	900
	$ 4,800	$ 4,500

(See accompanying notes)

Water Appeal Board
Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Accumulated Surplus
For the Year Ended March 31

	1989	1988
Revenue		
Government grant (Note 1)	$ 97,963	$ 41,100
Investment income	4,757	1,639
Appellant fees (Note 1)	1,200	900
Total Revenue	103,920	43,639
Expenditure:		
Honoraria	16,950	20,688
Secretarial services	6,593	10,541
Receptionist services	—	1,639
Travel and sustenance	18,414	18,032
Telephone	3,700	2,682
Legal	5,387	7,120
Office (including postage, photocopying and supplies	3,149	4,146
Miscellaneous	1,797	965
Office rental	2,252	1,065
Total Expenditures	58,242	66,878
Excess of revenue over expenditure (expenditure over revenue)	45,678	(23,239)
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	5,637	28,876
Accumulated surplus, end of year	$ 51,315	$ 5,637

(See accompanying notes)

Water Appeal Board
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 1989

1. Accounting Policies

A. Grants from the Province of Saskatchewan

Under the authority of section 7 of **The Water Appeal Board Act**, the board receives grants out of moneys appropriated by the Legislature for the payment of the administrative costs of the Board. The operating grant paid to the Board is netted against the accumulated surplus at April 1, 1988 which was refunded to the Consolidated Fund in 1988/89.

Grants received from the Consolidated Fund are recorded as revenue when received.

B. Appellant Fees

Appellant fees are held in a trust account until the appeal has been heard and the decision rendered. Once the decision has been rendered by the Appeal Board, then the appellant fee is dealt with in one of two manners:

i) The fee is returned to the appellant if he/she has been successful in his/her appeal.

ii) The fee is retained by the Board and recorded as income if the appellant is not successful in his/her appeal.

2. Establishment of Board

The Water Appeal Board was established under **The Water Appeal Board Act** and became law upon the proclamation of **The Water Corporation Act** on May 25, 1984. **The Water Appeal Board** came into force on July 1, 1984.